

The Ontario Argus leads in Prestige, merit, and Circulation. Watch us grow

The Ontario Argus.

Representative Newspaper of Ontario and Malheur County.

The Produce from 15,000,000 acres is marketed from Ontario each year

VOLUME XVII

ONTARIO, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 1914.

NO. 4

JURY FINDS ATTORNEY AKER NOT GUILTY

Peculiar Case Ends In a Verdict in Favor of the Defendant.

In the trial of Leslie J. Aker and J. W. Smith, charged jointly with larceny by bill of exchange, the charge against Smith was dismissed to make him a competent witness against Aker. The defense took the position that the suit was brought because of personal reasons on the part of the prosecuting attorney and evidently made the jury believe it as they reported not guilty. It appears that Smith, who had been working for Randall Sage, was unable to collect the full amount he claimed as due and employed Aker to collect it. Sage visited Aker's office and agreed to pay Smith \$66 for full settlement and made out a check for that amount. In signing it he left out a letter of his name and Aker suggested that he make out another, which he did without destroying the first one. After he left Smith showed up and was informed of the situation and he stated he had no money to start a suit to force collection and guessed he would have to let it go. Aker told him there was another check around there somewhere and he might look it up. Smith left and later returned stating that he had found a check in the hall and had cashed it. He paid Aker \$10 for his fee and left, cashing the second check and then bought a money order for the difference between the two checks and the amount he claimed due him and sent it to Sage. Sage took the case to Brooke and was in favor of cashing the money order, but was advised not to do so as he would then have no case, a point which had much weight with the jury. Duncan had charge of the case.

MARSHALL LOCKETT WANTS COURT TO REDUCE BONDS

Mrs. Marshall Lockett of Emmett, Idaho, wife of the convicted cattle thief, called on District Attorney Godwin in an effort to have him agree to a reduction of the bail of \$2500 which was fixed by the court. Despite the pleas of the wife, who had her infant child with her and of the prisoner, Mr. Godwin refused the request. Hick Lockett, brother of Marshall Lockett, also convicted, is out on bail. He has been trying to obtain his brother's release, but so far has failed. They have appealed their case to the supreme court. —Baker Herald.

IRONSIDE MAN FOUND DEAD IN HAYSTACK LAST WEEK

Ray Castle, a well known citizen was found dead on a hay stack on his ranch between Ironside and Unity some days since. There were some bruises on his head and it is not known whether he hurt himself and then lay down on the stack or was foully dealt with.

MALHEUR COUNTY TEACHERS SECURE CERTIFICATES

At the recent teacher's examination certificates were granted to the following from this county: One-year certificates—Nona M. Austin, Mrs. May Roberts, S. Eliza Beth Leonard, Ontario; Virginia D. Forbes, Owyhee; Harold R. Shale, Parma, Idaho; George Anna Hodgson, Anna Holland, Annie Calvert, Vale; Glenn M. Darnell, Edna Giesler, Matilde Stuve, Payette, Idaho; Winona Doty, Hazel Doty, Juntura; Stella Robinson, Jordan Valley; Helena M. Steeve, New Plymouth. Five-year certificates—Mell Etta Carter, Ontario, Victoria Carlyle, Cord; Laura Luce, Moorville. Life certificate—Laura Iman, Vale.

FARM LOAN COMPANY IS ORGANIZED FOR THIS SECTION

Last summer there were several men here looking over this field with a view of placing money here on farms and they have now organized a company, with headquarters in Boise and Robert Van Gilse as manager. They are organized with a capital of a million dollars and desire long time loans. Several years ago Mr. Van Gilse secured a loan from the same people and started what is now the big prune orchard near Aradina. When times got hard they demanded their money and the place was sacrificed. When the orchard was inspected and they found the mistake they had made it caused them to realize this was a good country to help develop.

MISS BELLE WILLARD



Miss Belle Willard, who is engaged to Kermit Roosevelt, a son of ex-President Roosevelt.

OKLAHOMA CONVICTS ATTEMPT OUTBREAK

Three Prisoners and Four Citizens Killed in Pistol Battle at State Penitentiary.

McAlester, Okla.—Seven persons were killed and three injured in a pistol battle in the state penitentiary here, which resulted when three prisoners, armed with revolvers, made a dash for liberty.

One of those killed was John R. Thomas, of Muskogee, ex-United States district judge and at one time a member of congress from Illinois. He was shot by a prisoner while waiting in the warden's office.

The dead are H. S. Drower, superintendent Penitentiary department; Patrick Oates, assistant deputy warden; F. C. Godfrey, guard, and three prisoners, China Reed, Tom Lane, and Charles Koontz.

The attempted mutiny occurred at the end of the day's work, and was led by Reed, Koontz and Lane.

The men worked in the tailor shop, and when their work was ended they approached the back door of the office of the American building. There they met Martin, the turnkey. They told Martin they wanted to see the parole officer. As Martin opened the door Reed struck him repeatedly with a large revolver, shot him through the cheek and robbed him of his keys.

Then the three prisoners, all armed with revolvers and shouting to others to follow, ran towards the warden's office. They met Oates, the assistant warden, and before he could defend himself Reed shot him through the heart. With the keys they had taken from Turnkey Martin they unlocked it and were free. Outside the gate the horse and buggy of Warden Dick was tied. The men sprang into it.

Guards and prison officials quickly mounted horses and the pursuit of the convicts began. It was short-lived. The heavy load Warden Dick's horse was pulling soon ended the flight.

The guards poured a merciless fire into the buggy. The horse fell and the convicts ceased firing. The three mutineers were found dead.

AN EFFORT TO SECURE SETTLERS FOR EASTERN OREGON

Oregon Boosters Busy Formulating Plans to Attract San Francisco Fair Visitors to Great Undeveloped Resources of this Section.

Tom Richardson was here Saturday and made a short talk in the Dream land to several hundred people on the opportunity to get people to this country during 1915.

Ninety per cent of the people who are coming to Oregon today are stopping in Portland and most of the balance are settling in the Willamette valley.

A few years ago the eastern part of the state was alive and they got the settlers, but the people in the Willamette valley towns finally realized their opportunity and got busy and they are reaping the harvest. If you want settlers here you must work for them. During 1915 there will be millions and millions of eastern people visit the San Francisco fair and it is your duty to urge all your eastern friends to buy their tickets via Oregon and stop off in Ontario. They will not do it unless you ask them to. Have your boys and girls write letters to the old friends back east and urge them to buy their tickets via Oregon and stop in Ontario.

San Francisco is spending fifty million dollars to bring people west and the general trend is for them to jump from city to city, never stopping to see the small towns or country. It is necessary to bring their attention to your particular section and urge them to stop here and look it over, many of them want the land you have to sell, but they do not know where to find it. It is your duty to tell them.

In the corn, cotton and wheat sections, the farms are getting larger, the school houses scarcer and the churches disappearing, drifting back to barbarism. There are only a few sections like you have here where a man can make a good living on five

acres, and where you can have a thickly settled community, with all the advantages of churches, schools and societies, with good roads and the other advantages of community life and there are thousands of people looking for homes in just such a community.

Tell the people how to get to Ontario, other routes are cheaper and you must show them why they should come this way by telling of the many advantages you have. Learn your country so you can tell them what crops do best here and what they can make out of them, what varieties do best, where the water comes from to irrigate the land, where you market your surplus crops what lands are worth and the thousand and one other little things that a settler wants to know. Portland is having ten million leaflets printed and is going to have them scattered over the east, you should do the same thing. They are not expensive and one should be enclosed in every letter written east from this section.

Ontario has the advantage of having all the west talking about it now, how it has the natural advantage of location to make a big distributing point, of the climate, soil, water supply, progressive people and the railroads that are bound to come here and you are neglecting a great opportunity in not helping it along.

There are more boys and girls in the state university and Agricultural college from Portland than from all the other sections of the state, and most of them are working their way through. You should organize and get the boys and girls interested in making something of themselves, to

Continued on last page

MUCH ACTIVITY IN RAILROAD BUILDING IS FORECAST

Indications that the Great Railroad Interests of the Northwest are Preparing to Construct Lines and Extensions which Center in this Section.

Porter Bros. who have the contract for the completion of a great portion of the Oregon Trunk line from the Dalles to Bend are moving their equipment from Eugene to Bend, preparatory to the spring work on the road south from the latter point. —Chewaucan Press.

The above circumstance alone might not mean much, but when others are considered it appears to be of some importance.

The Pin road has recently filed a right of way from the present terminus at New Meadows, down the Little Salmon to its mouth. This road is known to be owned by the Rubber interests who are also heavy stockholders in the Hill lines.

By reports recently filed it is learned beyond dispute that the Pittsburg and Gilmore is a Hill subsidiary. It is also known that the Hill people have large holdings of Western Pacific stock.

The Pittsburg and Gilmore road can be connected with the Hill system in Montana by the building of a short stretch from armstead down the Beaver river to Twin Bridges. On the other end it is about 200 miles from Salmon City down the Salmon river to the mouth of the Little Salmon and up that to New Meadows.

From the Western Pacific at Winemucca to Ontario is about 200 miles over territory that can be covered very easily.

From Bend to Ontario practically all of the difficult territory is now

covered by a joint line of the Hill and Harriman systems and the connection can be made at small expense and in a short time. With these connections the Hill people would have this state, Montana and Idaho connected with San Francisco by a splendid system.

The Western Development company, of which Louis Hill is a half owner, has opened offices in Omaha, enlarged their offices here and are arranging to handle a large business at this point this season.

The above and other circumstances indicate that the Hill people are ready to connect up their system at Ontario. You might also remember that Louis Hill spent some time at Ontario last year and side-stepped receptions at other cities in this section. He has large land holdings here and is also interested in irrigation here, having financed the Ontario and Nyssa ditch.

On the other hand it is announced that the Oregon Short Line is arranging to start work at once on the bridge across the Snake river north of here, also that they will take over the Payette Valley line the first of July and in the meantime will equip it with heavy steel and new rolling stock.

The Utah Construction company has announced that they have some heavy contracts in this section to be completed this year.

We believe that Ontario will see both of these systems strengthening their lines in this valley.

COL. THATCHER TO BE HERE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

Col. Thatcher, who is devoting his life to the building of highways will be in Ontario Friday and Saturday and give talks on the work being done to have a highway built through Ontario and on to the Columbia river basin by way of Brogan and the John Day valley. This route goes over the mountains at a low place and will not be expensive to build or keep up, at the same time will reach a good section of the state. Meetings have been held at Jamieson and other points in this valley.

The Colonel is not collecting any money, his expenses being paid by the Auto club.

Be sure and hear him speak at the school house Friday and at Dreamland Saturday.

RALPH FARISS



Ralph Fariss, the youthful California train bandit, who has been condemned to be hanged.

MEXICAN FEDERALS REACH RAILROAD

Marfa, Tex.—Footsore, ragged almost famished from their three-day march on foot of 67 miles over a windswept mountain road, the 3300 Mexican soldiers and generals routed from Ojinaga, Mex., by the rebels, arrived whence they are to be transported by train to Fort Bliss, at El Paso. With them are 1067 women and 300 children.

The ragged remnant of the Huerta army, which sought asylum in this country rather than face possible extermination by the rebels, will be formally interned at Fort Bliss as wards of the government. They are to be held indefinitely on the footing of prisoners of war. It will be the first time the American army has been called on to shelter, feed and clothe an entire division of a foreign army, which includes six disarmed generals.

POMONA GRANGE BOOSTING THE CORN INDUSTRY HERE

The Pomona grange is organizing to do some special boosting in this county and will offer prizes for the best acre of corn grown this season.

The secretary, E. B. Conklin, would like to hear from all persons having seed corn for sale. Another matter the grange is taking up is the Malheur irrigation project which was worked on here several years ago, when the government tried to get the people interested and they could not see it that way. With Will R. King in a position to help this county and his thorough knowledge of the proposal, the members of the grange have every reason to believe that it will be possible to get the project through.

The Pomona grange held last week developed the greatest interest ever shown at a meeting and they are doing excellent work in promoting matters of vital interest to the county.

RABBIT DRIVE PROVES A DISAPPOINTMENT

Snow is Too Heavy And Rabbits Would Not Drive

---Good Crowd Out

The rabbit drive on Sunday was a failure so far as the driving of rabbits was concerned, the deep, wet snow being too much for them and they would not travel. For sport, the boys did not lack and they enjoyed the outing very much. A few of them got bucked off and some of them caught rabbits and bulldozed them.

Most of those who attended were on horseback and it was no trouble to run the rabbits down. If dogs and had been taken along there would have been quite a slaughter as the rabbits are there and the dogs would have had no trouble in catching them.

Another drive will be arranged later, when the snow is gone and it is thought many hundreds can be driven from the hills to corals. The settlers in that section had most of their crops destroyed by the pests last summer and are anxious to have the supply out down.

REMODELING OF THE CARTER HOUSE GOING AHEAD RAPIDLY

The work of reconstructing the Carter house has progressed sufficiently to permit the bar to be moved into the room formerly occupied by Louis Hurtle's barber shop. The contractor is now busy preparing the old bar room and hallway for the lobby by tearing out the partition and making other improvements.

A room has been fitted up in front of the bar for a cigar stand and the general appearance is much improved.

Good headway is being made in the installing of bath rooms, plastering and finishing up the sleeping rooms and in arranging for the new kitchen and dining room.

VALE WINS FROM ONTARIO IN BASKET BALL GAME

The Ontario high school basketball team went to Vale Friday evening for a game with the high school team there. The score was 12 to 13 in favor of Vale. The boys say that there was one too many in the Vale team for them, but it was their fault for allowing them the umpire.

There will be a game between the Ontario and Nyssa team Friday evening. The boys are getting some experience this season and making excellent showings for their first year at the game.

WILLOW CREEK RANCHER IS INJURED IN RUNAWAY

William Allen, a rancher on upper Willow and above the Cow Valley country, had his arm broken and chest badly hurt early last week. His team ran away and Mr. Allen was thrown out. Dr. R. O. Payne, of Ontario, attended him and it is not known how badly injured he may be, though appearances indicate internal injuries about the chest. —Enterprise.

NYSSA MAN PURCHASES AN INTEREST IN FORD GARAGE

Thomas Coward, of Nyssa, has purchased a half interest in the Ford Garage. The company has added an agency for the Overland car, covering this county and the Payette valley. The Ford people will manufacture 230,000 cars for the trade this year and the Overland people about 50,000.

Mr. Coward is well known in this section and has many friends who will see that he receives a fair share of the auto business.